



Derrick Neal continues to publicly serve those under represented communities for over (20) years and counting. As a Certified Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Trainer in capacity building communities, Mr. Neal evaluates and develops programs to mobilize and sustain communities. Mr. Neal holds a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Illinois (2002) with a focus on program evaluation and a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from Jackson State University (1997). Mr. Neal is currently a PhD candidate with a focus on Public Administration.

From 1999 – 2002 Mr. Neal served the Peoria County/County Health Department (PCCHD) as the HIV/AIDS Minority Project Coordinator. As Project Coordinator Derrick authored grants, developed programs and served as an evaluation specialist where he managed county and state-wide public health projects.

After Derrick's tenure with the PCCHD, he worked as a consultant for the Illinois Department of Public Health. While working for the Illinois Department of Public Health, Mr. Neal was responsible for evaluation of statewide HIV/AIDS programs funded by the CDC and program development activities.

Mr. Neal began his career with the City of Houston Health and Human Services Department in 2003. While with the City of Houston's Health and Human Services Department, Mr. Neal evaluated and implemented programs and designed and implemented the National Family Caregiver Support Program with the Harris County Agency on Aging. In addition, Derrick worked in conjunction with other public and private agencies to better serve and advocate for senior populations.

Most recently Mr. Neal served as the Director of both the Victoria and DeWitt County Public Health Departments overseeing a 7-county region. Prior to that he served as the Director of Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District overseeing a 17 county "Big Country" region in West Texas. Mr. Neal currently serves as president of the Texas Association of City and County Health Officials (TACCHO) where he has been a member for the past 5 years.

In addition, continuous improvement spurs Derrick's quest to evaluate, develop and implement best practices for public health, infrastructure and safety programs for all communities to support economic, environmental and social sustainability through health equity practices.

#### Professional Goals:

- Sustaining (WCCHD) as a national top-tier public health district
- Green Space Development
- Public Infrastructure Best Management Practices

Personal Interests:

- Spending time with Family
- Volunteering (Big Brothers and Big Sisters)
- Motorcycling
- Bikram (Hot Yoga)
- Traveling
- Listening to Music “The Older The Better”